

United States Attorney's Office District of Columbia

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PRESS RELEASE

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Maryland Man Pleads Guilty in Conspiracy Involving U.S. Treasury Tax Refund Checks and Bank Fraud

WASHINGTON - Victor Dimbo, 48, of Upper Marlboro, Md., pled guilty today to one count of conspiracy to utter counterfeit United States Treasury tax refund checks and one count of bank fraud before the Honorable Paul L. Friedman of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

The plea was announced by U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr., Rebecca Sparkman, Special Agent in Charge, Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation, Washington D.C. Field Office, and Jeffrey Irvine, Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Office, U.S. Secret Service.

According to his guilty plea, from at least March 2004, and continuing until December 2007, United States Treasury tax refund checks were stolen from the mail. Dimbo and/or his co-conspirators then altered the legitimate United States Treasury tax refund checks by changing the name and address of the payee, and sometimes changed the exact amount of the check.

Dimbo and his co-conspirators then negotiated or attempted to negotiate the altered checks at various banks in the District of Columbia and Maryland, including Citibank. As a result of Dimbo's conduct, Citibank sustained actual losses of \$4,512. Dimbo is scheduled to be sentenced on Jan. 19, 2011. Under federal sentencing guidelines, he faces a sentencing range of up to 27 months in prison.

In announcing the guilty plea, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the outstanding collaborative efforts of the Postal Inspectors of the Washington Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Special Agents of the Department of the Treasury, Special Agent Joseph LaRose, of Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation, and Special Agent David Lively, U.S. Secret Service. He also cited the efforts of Paralegal Specialist Diane Hayes, Legal Assistants Jamasee Lucas and Sierra Tate. Finally, he commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Lionel Andre, who indicted and prosecuted the case.

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